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lence, is even greater than it is as a source of licentiousness. Public sentiment, though yet much too weak and indifferent, is sufficiently strong in many cities to keep the posting-boards fairly free from unclean pictures, at least in the more open and public places. Why should it not be strong and discerning enough to prevent the display of bills representing the most brutal and dastardly deeds of violence?

This evil of the show-bills is not confined to the city of Philadelphia, nor indeed to cities of any size or location. In Boston, with all its refinement and education, there are nearly always some of these brutal pictures in sight, as any one may convince himself to be true by keeping his eyes open while riding the length of Washington street. Men with wild, angry faces standing with uplifted dagger ready to plunge it into the heart of a woman on her knees near him, or with pistol drawn and flashing its smoke and powder into the face of some enemy, or standing with club in hand over a victim of his wrath who lies crushed on the ground,—these are samples of what may be seen every day posted up in conspicuous places in our American cities. They ought not to be permitted. Municipal and State laws ought to make such things impossible. The very commonness of such pictures seems, however, to render the better classes of society heedless to their mischievous influences. They see them, cast a hasty glance at them, turn away and go about their business, perhaps not appreciably affected themselves for evil. They forget that another class of people daily feasts its eyes on these representations of violence,—a class whose animal instincts are deeply corrupted and over whom such exhibitions of fancied brutality have an irresistible and deadly charm. It is the duty of all those who are seeking the peace and good order of society through the purification of its morals to take away such incentives to evil from the eyes of the vicious classes. Otherwise we shall continue to perpetuate the folly of dosing the effect, by means of fine and imprisonment, while ignoring one of the powerful causes of the brutal crimes so prevalent in many quarters.

The bill introduced into the Pennsylvania legislature to stop the posting of such pictures ought to pass without an hour's delay, though it will certainly not. Legislators reason like other people that such things have always existed, therefore they always will, and so let them alone. Meanwhile the education of boys and men into roughs and desperadoes will go on in these "free public institutes," while lawmakers sleep.

Closely allied to this evil is another which is even more to be condemned, because it comes from a source from which we have a right to expect something different. We refer to the manner in which great dailies give detailed accounts of the brutal prize fights now so common. It is not long since the most widely circulated and read of New England dailies devoted two columns of its front page on two successive days to a graphic description of two

prize fights, illuminating the account with pictures of the sluggers. This reference to a New England paper is only made because it is nearer home. Other great dailies do the same. They justify their action on the ground that it is "news," and that great dailies must get and publish the news. We admit that there is some truth in this claim. As long as such brutal and disgraceful things exist, we ought to know it. But this claim of the necessity of giving the news is a pitiable justification of the habit of putting the account of these fights in the most prominent part of the papers, as if they were among the great events of the day, like the Home Rule question or the annexation of Hawaii or the selection of a new cabinet, or of the way in which they detail the manner in which the sluggers pound each others faces into a jelly or knock each other senseless.

It is likewise an unworthy shirking of responsibility to say that the people demand these accounts and that everybody reads them. It is nearly impossible not to read them, the way they are put into prominent places and flamingly headlined. Many people glance at them or read them in part or in whole who would be greatly pleased if they were not thus thrust into their faces. But the serious responsibility connected with their publication in this retailed and graphic way lies in the fact that they fire and inflame the passions of great numbers of people who ought not to read a syllable about them. Are we to believe that a great daily, which ought to be and claims to be a leader of public thought and public morals, is privileged to pander to the lower inclinations of society? How are we to account for the fact that these long graphic accounts are rarely if ever accompanied by an editorial condemning prize fighting, though there is no lack of editorial criticism on many subjects? Valuable as it is to get and publish the news, is that the highest plane on which a great daily is to live? It may be doubted whether a single subscriber or a single reader would be lost by the reduction of these accounts to the small limits which they ought to have, especially in a paper which keeps itself full of the great and important events of the day, and public sentiment, of the better classes, ought to make itself speedily heard in opposition to this newspaper education in brutality.

#### THE PEACE CONGRESS AT CHICAGO.

The Fifth Universal Peace Congress, to be held under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary of the World's Columbian Exposition, will be held in the Permanent Memorial Art Palace, Chicago, beginning on the 14th of August and continuing one week. About ten sessions in all will be held. The closing session of the Congress will be a Sunday morning service in the Art Palace, in which the religious and moral aspects of the Peace Movement will be considered.

The Congress promises to be one of the largest and

most important ever held. All peace societies and all institutions and bodies interested in the cause of peace are invited to send delegations. The Congress Auxiliary has sent out invitations through the State Department to other governments to be represented in all the Congresses to be held during the summer, and though the United States Congress failed to authorize the President to extend a special invitation to other nations to send delegates to the Peace Congress in August, it is to be hoped that a considerable number of governments will send accredited representatives under the general invitation.

It is not probable now that the delegates of the Peace Societies will try to hold a separate Congress of their own, with a separate program, but will throw their whole strength into the general Congress. It is the judgment of the Committee on Organization representing the Peace Societies of America that this is the best course to pursue, and so far as heard from the peace workers of Europe are of the same opinion.

However, there are certain questions of special interest to the Peace Societies, left over from last year, and others with regard to future work, which will require their delegates to hold special meetings during the week of the Congress. For this ample opportunity will be given.

The program of subjects for discussion in the Congress is nearly completed and will be ready for distribution in a short time. This list of topics will remain open for revision for a few weeks, while persons to present papers and to deliver addresses are being chosen.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the friends of Peace everywhere will try to arrange to make their visit to the Exposition so as to be present during the week beginning August 14th. No other one of the many Congresses to be held during the summer is more important, in the issues which it represents, than this one whose purpose is to promote the brotherhood of humanity, the unity of the nations, the abandonment of war.

#### AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

By invitation of the Peace Societies of the United States and of Hon. Charles C. Bonney, President of the World's Congress Auxiliary of the Columbian Exposition, the Universal Peace Congress will hold its fifth annual meeting in Chicago, commencing the week beginning August 14, 1893, in connection with the International Arbitration and Peace Congress to be held under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary.

While the halls and committee rooms for the several sessions will be furnished free of expense by the World's Congress Auxiliary, the Committee on Organization will necessarily be called upon for the expenditure of considerable sums of money in the printing of circulars, of propositions and papers, of programs for the Congress, of cards of membership, etc. Badges will have to be

provided; materials for the Peace Exhibit will have to be gathered and arranged. Distinguished foreign guests who have been invited will have to be entertained, etc., etc. All this, as may readily be seen, will take money, and the Committee will be entirely dependent on the generosity of the friends of peace in supplying what shall be necessary. This will be a great opportunity for furthering the cause of peace, and we make this appeal confidently expecting that all the friends of peace throughout the country will respond gladly and generously.

The Committee have been fortunate in securing the services of Jonathan W. Plummer, a well-known business man of Chicago, as treasurer of the funds raised for this purpose. He will receive and hold the funds subject to the order of the Committee. Donations may be sent directly to him at 200 Randolph street, Chicago, or, where more convenient, forwarded through the proper officers of the different peace societies.

(Signed)

BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD, Chairman, Boston, Mass.

ALFRED H. LOVE, Philadelphia, Pa.

HANNAH J. BAILEY, Winthrop Centre, Me.

BELVA A. LOCKWOOD, Washington, D. C.

DR. R. H. THOMAS, Baltimore, Md.

Executive Committee of the Peace Societies.

#### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

We publish in full in this number the Preliminary Address of the Committee on Arbitration and Peace of the World's Congress Auxiliary of the Columbian Exposition, which was received too late for insertion in our March issue. The address is meant to give in a general way the reasons for holding such a Congress. The list of topics appended is not intended to be the program of the Congress, but only to suggest such subjects as are thought suitable for discussion, to guide the Committee and the Advisory Council in making up the program.

The following interesting account of the unarmed Indian police at the Qua Paw Agency is given by Charles W. Goddard in *The Christian Worker* (Chicago) for March 16th:

"Some months ago the agent for the Qua Paw Indian agency was compelled to discharge several of his police for drunkenness, and asked Hiram Blackfish to fill one of the vacancies. But Hiram said, 'There are three things that most of the police do, that I can't; one is to drink whiskey; if you expect me to do that I can't serve; then if you expect me to go to dances to keep order, I can't do that; and if you want me to serve on the Sabbath, I can't do that; I must have my Sabbath to go to church, and to serve the Lord with his people.' With the agent's assurance of exemption from these things he was appointed. But when he presented himself for duty, the agent said, 'Where is your revolver?' He replied, 'I haven't any.'